****

## Notice of intention to levy a special charge

## for households participating in Solar Savers Program

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* (“the Act”), notice is hereby given that at its meeting on Monday 16 October 2017, Cardinia Shire Council resolved to declare and levy a special charge under Section 163 of the Act.

The special charge is for the purpose of offsetting expenses incurred by Council for the provision of solar energy systems to residential properties participating in the Solar Savers Program. These households have signed an agreement based on the quoted cost of the provision of a solar energy system at their property.

The scheme arises out of Council’s function of advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the community and ensuring the peace, order and good government of Council’s municipal district.

A copy of the proposed declaration, known as 'Proposed Special Charge Scheme for Solar Saver Program’ is available for inspection at Council’s Customer Service Centre at 20 Siding Avenue, Officer during normal office hours until Tuesday 14 November 2017.

The special charge is to be declared in relation to the properties listed in Appendix A to the report titled ‘Proposed Special Charge scheme for Solar Saver Program’, considered by Council at its ordinary meeting on Monday 16 October 2017. A copy of the appendix forms part of the documents available for inspection at Council’s customer service centre.

The scheme has been prepared on the basis that the participating property owners will receive 100 percent of the benefit. The total cost of the scheme is $36,497.69. A special charge will be imposed on each property participating in the scheme, all of which have signed a Householder Agreement outlining the individual costs involved. This agreement applies for a period of 10 years from Sunday 1 July 2018. The special charge will be calculated by reference to the site of the solar energy system being installed and the particular costs of installation at each property.

The special charge will be Ievied by notice forwarded to the property owner(s). Council will, by request, allow payment of the special charge by either full payment in a single lump sum or by quarterly instalments over 10 years, with the first payment due from Sunday 1 July 2018.

Any person may make a submission under Section 223 of the Act in relation to Council’s proposal to declare the special charge under Section 163 of the Act.

Any person who has made a written submission may also request that they (or a person acting on their behalf) be heard in support of their written submission. Such persons should indicate in their submission if they wish to be heard by Council.

Council will consider and, if requested, hear support for all written submissions received before 2pm, Thursday 23 November 2017 at the Hearing of Submissions Committee at a date to be set.

Submissions should be addressed to:

Aruna Dias

Environment Officer

PO BOX 7

Pakenham VIC 3810

or by email to mail@cardinia.vic.gov.au

In addition to the right to make a submission, participating property owners have the right to object to the proposed declaration in accordance with Section I63B of the Act. Such persons may object in writing to Council by 2pm, Thursday 23 November by sending their objection to the above address.

It is stressed that any submission should clearly state if the author wishes to be heard the Council, and whether the submission is of support or comment only, or a formal objection to the scheme as proposed.

It is proposed that Council will consider this matter at its Ordinary Meeting on Monday 11 December 2017. For further information on this scheme call Aruna Dias, Environment Officer on 1300 787 624.